

REMARKS

Summary of Status of Claims

By this amendment, Applicant has amended claims 3-6. Claims 1-6 are currently pending. Of these, claims 1, 3, and 5 are independent.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 3 and 4 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, for being generally narrative and indefinite; rejected claims 5 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter; and allowed claims 1 and 2. Applicant appreciates the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter and respectfully traverses the rejections for the following reasons.

Regarding the Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph

The Examiner rejected claims 3 and 4 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, for being "generally narrative and indefinite, failing to conform with current U.S. practice." See Office Action, page 2. The Examiner listed specific examples from the language of claim 3.

By this amendment, Applicant has addressed the Examiner's specific concerns, as well as additional informalities to further improve form. These amendments do not change the scope of the claims. Accordingly, Applicant requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

Regarding the Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 101

The Examiner rejected claims 5 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 because "the claims recite a computer program product, without execution." See Office Action,

page 3. The Examiner further noted that "appropriate amendments to claims 5 and 6 could make the claims statutory." See Office Action, page 3.

By this amendment, Applicant has added appropriate language to claims 5 and 6 in order to address the Examiner's concerns. Accordingly, Applicant requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 101.

Conclusion

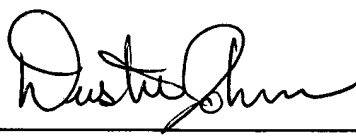

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and reexamination of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: November 10, 2004

By:  Reg. No. 47,684
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